

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-21, 23-30 and 35-38 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 are amended. This Amendment is to even further distinguish the claims over the applied references. Support for the Amendment can be found at least in paragraphs [0078] and [0090]-[0093] and in Fig. 3 of the application. No new matter is added.

Claims 1-9, 11-21, 23-30 and 35-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the "Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA)", in view of Kimura (US 6,362,798).¹ This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that the AAPA recites most of the features of independent claim 1. The Office Action acknowledges that the AAPA fails to disclose setting a gate voltage of a voltage-rising transistor and changing the reference voltage through a transforming circuit, as recited in independent claim 1. The Office Action asserts that Kimura discloses setting a gate voltage of a voltage-rising transistor included in the transforming circuit to an initial voltage in order to turn on the voltage-rising transistor. Applicant respectfully disagrees, and submits that Kimura provides no suggestion or other motivation to modify AAPA in the manner proposed by the Office Action. The Office Action relies on impermissible hindsight.

Kimura, discloses a resetting thin film transistor (TFT) for resetting the voltage at the gate of the driving TFT (V_g). This resetting necessarily follows voltage V_g which was previously set by the combination of switching TFT 140 and compensating TFT 120, and is held by holding capacitor 160. See col. 8, lines 24-32 of Kimura. Further, Kimura fails to

¹ On page 2, the Office Action references "claims 1-30". However, claims 10 and 22 were canceled and the Office Action appears to include claims 35-38 in the rejection on page 10.

disclose a transforming circuit being capable of causing a current to flow through a plurality of current generating active elements. Further, AAPA nor Kimura discloses supplying a changed reference voltage commonly to the control terminals of a plurality of current generating active elements. Kimura discloses a voltage rising transistor within an individual pixel to provide a voltage to a driving TFT that is operated in triode mode to activate a single light emitting element. See Kimura, col. 8, lines 8-13 and lines 48-53. Thus, Kimura fails to disclose or suggest a voltage-rising transistor that is part of a transforming circuit and that establishes a changed reference voltage which is provided to a plurality of current generating active elements within a driver. Claim 1 has been amended to further specify that the adjusted reference voltage is commonly supplied to the terminal of the current generating active elements. Thus, the AAPA and Kimura fail to disclose or suggest, even when combined, the combination of features recited in independent claim 1.

Similarly, the applied references fail to disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in independent claim 2. As with independent claim 1, the references fail to disclose or suggest a transforming circuit that generates an applied voltage from a reference voltage and provides that voltage to the control terminals of the plurality of N current-generating active elements. Further, Kimura fails to disclose or suggest an initialization device that sets the gate voltage of the voltage-rising transistor to an initial voltage to turn on the voltage-rising transistor. Thus, the applied references fail to disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 2 even when the references are combined.

Independent claims 13 and 14 are patentable for similar reasons as claims 1 and 2, and are amended in similar fashion. Claims 3-9, 11-12, 15-21, 23-30 and 35-38 are dependent on independent claims 1, 2, 13 and 14, respectively, and are therefore patentable for the same reasons as the independent claims and further in view of the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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